

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY AGRICULTURE:RENEETZ:LCB

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COMMERCE:MONTROE (PHONE)

EUR/EE: RAMOSHER

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TO AMEMBASSY SOFIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BAGB, BU

SUBJECT: SILISTRA AGRICULTURAL PROJECT

REF: SOFIA 1782

1. DEPT OF AGRICULTURE HAS REVIEWED COMMENTS OF REFTEL AND ADVISES THAT BULGARIAN RECOMMENDATION FOR AGRICULTURAL EXPERTS VISIT IN CONNECTION WITH GLOBE INDUSTRIES PROJECT PROPOSALS ARE UNRELATED TO PENDING AGRICULTURAL EXCHANGES.

2. SILISTRA PROJECT IS A COMMERCIAL VENTURE AND THE COSTS OF TRAINING OR EXCHANGES WOULD FALL ON CONTRACTING PARTIES. IN RECENT CONVERSATION WITH GLOBE INDUSTRIES, USDA ADVISED THAT FIRM HAS NOT CONTEMPLATED GIVING FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR VISITING BULGARIAN EXPERTS, NOR HAS GIVEN INDICATION THAT SUPPORT WOULD BE GIVEN BY OTHER PRIVATE FIRMS OR GOVERNMENT. EXPENSES OF TRAINING AND TRAVEL UNDER PROJECT PROPOSALS WOULD BE BORNE BY BULGARIAN GOVERNMENT.

3. WE CONCUR THAT OPERATION MERITS CONSIDERATION AS AN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AREA FOR ASSISTING U.S. FIRM INTERESTS IN INTERNATIONAL

COMPETITION. HOWEVER, SILISTRA PROJECT DOES NOT FIT IN
WITH THE PROPOSED EXCHANGE OF AGRICULTURAL SPECIALISTS
UNDER A GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT PROGRAM.
ROBINSON

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